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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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10/666,626

09/18/2003

David R. Mekala

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02/23/2009

3M INNOVATIVE PROPERTIES COMPANY

PO BOX 33427

ST. PAUL, MN 55133-3427

EXAMINER

CHUO, TONY SHENG HSIANG

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

1795

NOTIFICATION DATE

DELIVERY MODE

02/23/2009

ELECTRONIC

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

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UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

BEFORE THE BOARD OF PATENT APPEALS
AND INTERFERENCES

Ex parte: DAVID R. MEKALA, DAVID W. STEGINK,
MOSES M. DAVID and JOSEPH W. FRISK

Application No. 10/666,626
Technology Center 1700

Mailed: 20 February 2009

Before LAWRENCE J. BANKS *Paralegal Specialist*
BANKS, *Paralegal Specialist*.

ORDER RETURNING UNDOCKETED APPEAL TO EXAMINER

This application was electronically received by the Board of Patent Appeals and Interferences on 16 December 2008. A review of the application revealed that it is not ready for docketing as an appeal.

Accordingly, the application is herewith being returned to the Examiner to address the following matter(s) requiring attention prior to docketing.

EXAMINER'S ANSWER, MISSING CERTIFIED TRANSLATION

The Examiner relied on the foreign reference(s) Nagamori et al (JP 11-045733) in rejecting the claims. Full certified English translation(s) of the above noted foreign reference(s) are not of record in the Image File Wrapper (IFW).

When an Examiner relies on a document “in a language other than English, a translation *must* be obtained so that the record is clear as to the precise facts the examiner is relying upon in support of the rejection” (emphasis added). MPEP §1207.02. Pursuant to a memorandum dated April 29, 2002 by Stephen G. Kunin, Deputy Commissioner for Patent Examination Policy:

Effective immediately, no appeal should be forwarded to the Board of Patent Appeals and Interferences for decision where: (1) a rejection is supported in whole or part by an abstract without reference to the underlying document, . . . ; or (2) a rejection is supported in whole or part by a prior art document not in the English language, unless accompanied by a translation of the prior art document into English.

The memorandum also states “[i]f the document is in a language other than English and the examiner seeks to rely on that document, a translation *must*

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be obtained so that the record is clear as to the precise facts the examiner is relying upon in support of the rejection” (emphasis added).

CONCLUSION

Accordingly, it is

ORDERED that the application is returned to the Examiner to:

- 1) obtain full certified English language translation(s) of the above noted foreign reference(s);
- 2) complete the IFW by having the translation(s) obtained scanned into the IFW file;
- 3) provide copies of the translations obtained to Appellant(s); and
- 4) for such further action as may be appropriate.

If there are any questions pertaining to this Order, please contact the Board of Patent Appeals and Interferences at 571-272-9797.

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